

LLANFYLLIN
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR 1962

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TO THE LLANFYLLIN MUNICIPAL BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

It gives me pleasure to submit my Annual Report for the year 1962, which has been drawn up in accordance with the instructions of the Welsh Board of Health.

The vital statistics compare very favourably with the County and the rest of the country, and there were no stillbirths or deaths of infants under 1 year of age. The main cause of death was from cancer, coronary heart disease causing only one death.

The Public Health Inspector in his report draws attention to the need for extending the main water supply to the outlying areas of the Borough where the quantity of water is unsatisfactory during dry periods and where houses are still supplied from private wells. In view of the fact that the public source is adequate in quantity to supply these areas, it should only be a matter of time before the scheme is realized.

During the year it was found necessary to take action to disinfect a verminous person and his dwelling house; fortunately with his consent. Although County Councils and Local Authorities are empowered (by legislation laid down in the Public Health Act, 1936) to provide facilities such as cleansing stations to deal with these cases, no such provision is available in the Borough or in the County. In this instance we had to invoke the assistance of the Public Health Department of a neighbouring authority and remove the person to a Shrewsbury clinic for cleansing, and it was only after tendering a certificate of cleanliness that we were able to obtain his admission to one of our County Welfare Homes pending disinfection of his dwelling house.

I regret the delay in presenting this report which is due to my absence from duty for several months due to illness and to the very limited clerical assistance upon which I am able to call.

I would like to thank Mr. Evans, the Chief Public Health Inspector for preparing "Section C" of the report,

I am,

Yours obediently,

ELINOR M. GREVILLE.

July, 1963.

LLANFYLLIN BOROUGH COUNCIL AT 31st MARCH, 1962

The Mayor: Alderman J. E. EVANS

Deputy Mayor: Alderman I. H. LEWIS

Alderman DAVID JONES

Alderman J. M. OWEN

Councillors: D. Ll. EVANS

Mrs. M. E. JONES

P. A. JONES

A. F. MANN

G. O. RICHARDS

L. T. ROBERTS

R. D. ROBERTS

Mrs. I. D. SELLY

A. W. WATKINS

I. M. WATKINS

Town Clerk T. E. A. Jarvis, Solicitor

Officers of the Health Department

Medical Officer Elinor M. Greville, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Borough Surveyor and Public Health Inspector Ll. O. Evans, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. R.S.I.
(Meat and Other Foods)

SECTION “ A ”

General Statistics

Area of District—8,143 acres.
Registrar General’s mid-year estimate of resident population—1230.
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books—396.
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1962—£11,608.
Sum of Penny Rate—£46 2s. 10d.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population.

Estimated Mid-1962—1,230
Estimated Mid-1961—1,240
Estimated Mid-1960—1,280
Estimated Mid-1959—1,300
Estimated Mid-1958—1,300

These figures show a decline in the population of 10 over the 1961 figure. The 1962 live births stood at the figure of 16, as the number of deaths was 17, the **Natural** decrease in the population was 1.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births

Live births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	9	6	15
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Total	10	6	16

Note: 4 (2 males and 2 females) of these births took place outside the borough, presumably in hospital.

Crude Birth Rate=13.01 per 1,000 total population.
Corrected Birth Rate (for age and sex)=17.17 per 1,000 population.
England and Wales Birth Rate (1962) provisional—18.0.
Montgomeryshire Birth Rate (1962)—14.63.

Still-Births—Nil.

Still-birth and Perinatal Mortality Rates—Nil.

Infant Mortality—Since no deaths occurred of infants under 1 year the Infant Mortality Rate was non-existent.

Deaths

All causes:

Male	....	13
Female	....	4
		—
Total	....	17
		—

Note: 8 of these deaths (6 male and 2 female) occurred at “ Y Dolydd.”

Crude death rate: 13.82 per 1,000 population.

Corrected death rate: 12.71 per 1,000 population.

Montgomeryshire death rate: 13.09.

Deaths by age, cause, and sex during the year

Cause	Sex	Age Groups					Total	
		10-20 yrs.	50-60 yrs.	60-70 yrs.	70-80 yrs.	80-90 yrs.	M	F
Malignant neoplasm stomach	M	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Malignant neoplasm bronchus	M	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	—	—	1 ¹	—	—	1	—
	F	—	1 ²	—	—	—	—	1
Coronary disease	M	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
Other heart disease	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Influenza	M	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Pneumonia	F	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Bronchitis	M	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	M	—	—	—	—	5 ³	5	—
	F	1 ⁴	—	—	—	—	—	1
Suicide	M	—	—	1 ⁵	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	M	—	—	3	4	6	13	—
	F	1	1	—	1	1	—	4
Grand Totals	M&F	1	1	3	5	7	17	

¹ Cancer of prostate.
² Cancer of breast.
³ “ Senile decay.”
⁴ Glioma.
⁵ Drowning.

Once more, the 70-90 years age group experienced the greater number of deaths (over 70% of all deaths).

Malignant neoplasms were the chief causes of death (24 %), but in the “ Ill-defined ” group 5 deaths were from senile decay, so that it is possible that disease of the circulatory system may have caused some of these deaths.

Comparative Statistics 1961 and 1962

		Llanfyllin Borough 1962	Llanfyllin Borough 1961	Monts.	England & Wales
Birth rate (adjusted)	....	17.17	12.26	15.95	18.0
Death rate (adjusted)	....	12.71	17.44	12.04	12.22
Still birth rate	....	Nil	13.3%	2.5%	1.81%
Perinatal mortality rate	....	Nil	13.3%	4.12%	3.1%
Infant mortality rate	....	Nil	Nil	23.5	21.6
Maternal mortality	....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.35

SECTION “ B ”

National Health Act 1948

Public Health provisions administered by the County Council (see County Medical Officer's Annual Report).

SECTION “ C ”

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supplies

(i) Quality

To report upon the quality of the water supplies in this district it is necessary to distinguish between public supplies and supplies drawn from private sources.

The public supply is drawn from a well sunk in valley gravel. Samples of the supply are submitted to bacteriological examination and during the year under review 16 samples of the supply were examined. 5 were excellent, 5 were satisfactory, 1 was suspicious and 5 unsatisfactory. Two chemical samples were examined and found to be satisfactory.

The private supplies are mostly from shallow wells or springs and detailed information regarding their quality is not available. During the year under review 2 samples of privately owned water supplies were submitted to bacteriological examination. One was found to be suspicious and one unsatisfactory.

(ii) Quantity

To report upon the adequacy of the water supplies in the Borough it is again necessary to deal separately with those properties which are within reach of the public mains and those which have to rely on private supplies.

The public supply is adequate for all purposes. The dwellings and population supplied from the mains are as follows:

	No. of Dwellings	Estimated Population
Water laid on to house or curtilage	335	1,094

Dealing generally with the properties beyond the reach of the water-main there can be no doubt that during periods of drought the supplies are inadequate. The elevation of some properties makes it difficult to supply them economically, but I consider that the watermains should be extended wherever possible so as to make the maximum use of an adequate source. I am glad to note however that a high proportion of the houses in the district are provided with a mains water supply.

(iii) Plumbo-Solvent Action

The public water supply is treated for the correction of pH value and I would not expect the water to have a marked aggressive action on metals.

Drainage and Sewerage

Following the construction in 1953 of new sewerage works for the town the position regarding drainage and sewerage is satisfactory within the built-up area of the district.

Closet Accommodation

The construction of the new sewerage scheme made it possible to convert most of the pail closets in the town. At the end of the year there were no pail closets in use in the built-up area of the district.

Public Cleansing

Throughout the year under review arrangements were in force for the weekly collection of house refuse. The service was confined to the contents of bins and the refuse was disposed of on one tip situated outside the Borough and one situated within the Borough. The service has recently been extended to rural parts of the Borough.

Public Health Inspections

During the year the Public Health Inspector carried out the following inspections:

Public Health	....	....	9
Food and Drugs	....	....	6
Housing Inspections	....	....	8
Drainage....	....	....	7
Building Inspections	....	....	28
Meat Inspections	....	....	142
Refuse Disposal	....	....	25

As a result of the above inspections the following notices were served with the result indicated:

No. served	....	....	2
No. complied with	....	....	1

Shops and Offices

No action was necessary during the year.

Caravan Sites

There were no licensed sites in the district at the end of 1962.

Smoke Abatement

No action was necessary during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools in the area.

Verminous Premises and Persons

One verminous dwelling house together with its contents was successfully disinfested. The occupier consented to being cleansed at a clinic in Shrewsbury.

Factories Act, 1937-1959

No action was necessary during the year.

Outworkers

There are no outworkers in the district and therefore no statistics relating to Part VIII of the Act of 1937 are included in this report.

SECTION “ E ”

The following information is required to be included in this report:

(1) There were in the district at the end of 1959 the following number of premises where food is prepared, sold or stored:

Butcher's Shops	....	....	....	2
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	....	....	....	1
General Provisions Shops	....	....	....	5
Greengrocer's Shops	....	....	....	1
Cafes	....	....	....	3
Confectioner's Shops	....	....	....	6
Licensed Premises	....	....	....	3

(2) Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, requires the registration of all premises used for the manufacture or sale of ice cream or the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. The following numbers of premises are so registered:

For the sale of ice cream	....	5
For the manufacture of ice cream		1

(3) Educational activity in relation to food hygiene was confined to advice and discussion.

(4) One slaughterhouse was in operation in the district throughout the year and following table shows meat inspected and condemned:

Meat Inspection

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	110	—	6	841	183
Number inspected	105	—	6	787	180
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS					
Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	4	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	40	18
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticercosis	4.76%	—	—	5.59%	10%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	1
% of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.55%
CYSTICERCOSIS					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Total Weight of Meat Condemned — 295 lbs.

SECTION “ F ”

Infectious Disease Control

During the year no notifiable diseases were reported.

It is known that a certain amount of gastro-intestinal infection does occur in the community which is not brought to the attention of the family doctor since the symptoms are transient; for the same reason the District Medical Officer of Health is unable to assess the number affected or trace the offending organism. Mild cases of dysentery or food-poisoning lead to undetected “carriers” of these organisms and the danger of more widespread infection. It is for this reason that health education with regard to food hygiene is so important and it is our intention to survey all food premises in the district to ensure that the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, are complied with.

Tuberculosis

No cases of this disease were notified in the Borough and for the first year on record no deaths attributable to this disease occurred in the County.

The programme for vaccination against tuberculosis continued at the Llanfyllin High School where 47 pupils were successfully vaccinated.

The Mass Radiography Unit examined 279 persons in the north of the County and no active cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were detected.

The immunisation programme continued at the County Welfare Clinics where immunisation against whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis was available. Towards the end of the year the administration of poliomyelitis vaccine orally was instituted.

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
RECEIVED

-7 APR 1966

A.